

2023 Distinguished Excellence in Traffic Safety Award

Lowell Pitzer has had a long and distinguished career in education. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Alderson-Broaddus College in West Virginia and his Master of Art degree from West Virginia University in 1967.

Over his career, he has taught Biology, General Science, Physical Education, and Geography in West Virginia. He has coached wrestling, basketball, baseball, football, cross country, and golf. Not only did he coach those sports, but he also was a men's and women's basketball official for 21 years.

With the rank of Major, Lowell taught and served as an assistant coach at the Fork Union Military Academy in Virginia from 1966 – 1986. From 1986 – 1990 he served as the head men's basketball coach at Belhaven College in Jackson, Mississippi.

In 1990, Mr. Pitzer brought his teaching and coaching skills to Missouri Baptist University in St. Louis, MO. He served as the men's basketball head coach from 1990 – 1997 and then lead the women's basketball team from 1997 – 2001. He was the Athletic Director from 1991 – 1997. Lowell has been an Associate Professor in the School of Education serving as the coordinator of Driver Education certification and is still serving as the Missouri Baptist University faculty athletic representative. Lowell was also the Commissioner of the American Midwest Conference from 2002 – 2013.

Mr. Pitzer has been a Phi Delta Kappa member for 55 years. He has served on a multitude of committees for Missouri Baptist University and his church. He is a member of the Society of Health and Physical Education, the Missouri Society of Health and Physical Education, the American Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association and the Missouri Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association. He has presented at national, state, and regional conferences over the years. Lowell has been an active member of MODSEA for many years. He served on the committee to host the successful 2010 ADTSEA conference hosted by MODSEA in St. Louis that year.

Lowell has authored and designed coaches manuals and athlete handbooks for Belhaven University, Missouri Baptist University and the American Midwest Conference. During his career, he has been recognized as the NAIA men's and women's basketball coach of the year as well as the NAIA District 16 Administrator of the year. He has been serving as the Chair of the NAIA Men's National Basketball Tournament since 2007. In 2019, Mr. Pitzer was inducted into the NAIA American Midwest Conference Hall of Fame as their initial inductee.

Lowell and his wife Susie have been married for 52 years. They have four children, 10 grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren. It is with great pleasure that MODSEA recognizes Lowell Pitzer with the Distinguished Excellence in Traffic Safety Award.